



Targeted pests

Newly hatched gypsy moth caterpillars are targeted in the spring with biological pesticides. Adult male moths are targeted in the summer with pheromone flakes.

Goals

To protect and preserve Wisconsin's trees by slowing the spread of gypsy moth establishment in western Wisconsin and suppressing established gypsy moth populations in eastern and central Wisconsin.

Expected start dates

- May to June: first round of applications (Btk and NPV).
- Late June to July: second round of applications (pheromone flakes).

Number of treatments

- One or two applications of Btk, five to 10 days apart (a biological pesticide).
- One application of NPV (naturally occurring gypsy moth virus).
- One application of pheromone flakes (a mating disruptor).

Daily start time

- Btk and NPV: at sunrise as weather conditions permit.
- Pheromone flakes: about 7 a.m. as weather conditions permit.

Daily finish time

As late as weather conditions remain acceptable; normally noon or early afternoon for Btk and NPV; late afternoon for flakes.

Application rates

- Btk and NPV: 2 quarts per acre.
- Pheromone flakes: one to two flakes per square foot of tree canopy or 1/4 to 1/2 cup per acre.

Necessary weather conditions

Low winds to reduce drift; high humidity levels to reduce evaporation; no precipitation.

Planes used

Aerial application planes are fitted with global positioning systems (GPS) and a computer/satellite system for application precision.